

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-6 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended. It is submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated August 5, 2010.

Examiner's Interview

Applicants gratefully appreciate the courtesy extended by Examiner Kelly and Supervisory Examiner Mitchel to Applicants' representative during the telephone interview conducted on November 3, 2010.

In accordance with the discussion during the interview and indication in an Interview Summary, claim 1 has been amended to overcome all the outstanding rejections. Specifically, **claims 1 and 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landert (USP 6,084,367) in view of Hagiwara (USP 4,697,383) and further in view of Smelka (USP 6,914,401).** This rejection regarding independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 3-6 has been overcome by this Amendment.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Application No. 10/572,374
Art Unit: 3634

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Attorney Docket No. 062278

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

/Tsuyoshi NAKAMURA/

Tsuyoshi Nakamura
Limited Recognition No. L0396
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

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